

13281 U.S. PTO

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Attorney Docket No.: WATK:265

Date: April 19, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) is the  
patent application of

Inventor(s): Yoshihiko KURASHIMA; Shigeru HANZAWA;  
Michitaka HIDAKA; Toshihiko HONDA

For: FURNACE AND FIRING PROCESS

Enclosed are:

- [x] An Application Data Sheet.
- [x] Six (6) sheets of informal drawings, Figures 1-6.
- [ ] An Assignment of the invention to NGK INSULATORS, LTD.
- [ ] Certified copies of Japanese applications Nos. 2003-197289  
filed July 15, 2003; 2003-325402 filed September 18, 2003;  
2003-339999 filed September 30, 2003; and 2004-020397 filed  
January 28, 2004.
- [ ] A Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- [x] This application is not entitled to small entity status;
- [ ] A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed.
- [ ] An Information Disclosure Statement.
- [x] The Verified English-Language Translation, executed  
Declaration and Assignment and full filing fees will follow in  
due course.



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	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Basic Fee	\$770.00
Total					
Claims	- 20 =		x \$ 18.00=	\$	
Independent					
Claims	- 3 =		x \$ 86.00=	\$	
Multiple Dependent Claim(s)					
(if applicable)			+ \$ 290.00=	\$	
Total					770.00
Reduction by 1/2 for filing Small Entity					
Assignment recordation fee			\$ 40.00=	\$	
TOTAL FILING FEE				\$	

- [ ] Our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of the total filing fee is enclosed. However, if the check is missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. -----.
- [ ] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. -----: any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17; and any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

Roger W. Parkhurst  
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